RG104 E-1 Box 168

Feb 17th 1891
The Lincoln 10th & H. nw
Washington. D. C.

Mr Baxbyshell

Will you do me the kindness to inform me when women were first employed in the mint, and in what capacities. Also who first employed them, and by what authority? Was not the position held by them considered a government office and therefore conferred by some high authority? Was it by the Treasurer of the U. States, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the mint, or whom? Were they first employed under Col Snowden - if so when? It must have been that they were employed as early as 1851 or before. Is Col Snowden now living? If so what is his address? Effort is being made to give Gen Spinner the credit of having first introduced women into government employment but I am sure some were employed in

RG104 E-1 Box 168

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the much preferred to his employment of them and I call that government employment. Am. I not correct?
Please write me at your earliest opportunity, and give me such information as you can.

Very respectfully
(Miss) Virginia Penny

Washington. D.C.
Feb. 17. 1891

Virginia Penny
Relative to the employment of women by Govt.

RECEIVED
FEB 19 1891
U.S. MINT, PHILA.

RG104 E-1 Box 168

The Lincoln [Hotel]
10th & H Streets, NW
Washington, D.C.

February 17, 1891

Mr. Bosbyshell:

Will you do me the kindness to inform me when women were first employed in the Mints, and in what capacities? Also, who first employed them, and by what authority? Was not the position held by them considered a government office and therefore conferred by some high authority? Was it by the Treasurer of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Director of the Mint, or whom? Where they first employed under Col. Snowden – if so when?

It must have been that they were employed as early as 1852 or before. Is Col. Snowden now living? If so, what is his address? Effort is being made to give General Spurrier the credit of having first introduced women into government employment, but I am sure some were employed in the mint previous to his employment of the, and I call that government employment. Am I not correct?

Please write me at your earliest opportunity, and give me such information as you can.

Very respectfully.
(Miss) Virginia Penny

[Editor's Note: **Virginia Penny** (January 18, 1826 – April 4, 1913) was an economist and social reformer. She was the first to study women's labor and employment in the U.S. and Europe. She also served as an early leader of the Women's Suffrage movement before turning to labor union organization.]